SOWING

WHY CHRISTIANS DON'T RECEIVE REWARDS

Olatunde Foye

Copyright © 2025 by Olatunde Foye

Sowing: Why Christians Don’t Receive Rewards

Living Ready for the Master's Return

Published by: Whitewool Publishers

Mail: tundefoye@gmail.com

Tel: +234 8034017177

Website: www.whitewool.com.ng

ISBN: 883-1985-026-1

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law. For permission requests, write to the publisher, addressed "Attention Permissions Coordinator,"

Cover design: Whitewool Graphics

Al Scriptures quotations, unless otherwise stated, are from the King James Version

Dedication

To every believer who has given with tears, prayed with hope, and waited for a harvest that seemed delayed—
May this book strengthen your faith, refine your sowing, and remind you that our God is faithful to reward.
To the givers who have been misunderstood, misled, or wearied in well-doing—may you find fresh joy in sowing for eternity.

And above all, to the **Lord of the Harvest**, who sees every seed, every sacrifice, and every secret offering—this work is for Your glory.

Acknowledgments

First and foremost, I give glory and thanks to **God, the Giver of all good things**, who not only supplies seed to the sower but also multiplies the seed sown and increases the fruits of righteousness (2 Corinthians 9:10). Without His grace, this message would not have been birthed.

I am deeply grateful to the **spiritual mentors, pastors, and teachers** who modeled generosity with wisdom and integrity, and who helped shape my understanding of biblical stewardship.

To my **family and friends**, thank you for your encouragement, prayers, and unwavering support during the writing of this book. Your love has been a constant reminder of the true rewards that come from relationships rooted in Christ.

To the **intercessors** who stood in the gap, praying that this work would carry life-transforming truth—I honor you. Your unseen labor has watered this seed.

Finally, I thank **every believer** who, at one point or another, has given sacrificially—whether in finances, time, or service—and has longed to understand why the harvest seemed delayed. This book is written with you in mind. May the Holy Spirit use it to bring clarity, encouragement, and renewed faith.

Contents

Sowing: Why Christians Don't Receive Rewards

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly…" (2 Corinthians 9:6, KJV)
"Give, and it shall be given unto you…" (Luke 6:38, KJV)

Introduction: The Mystery of Sowing Without Harvest

- The common frustration: Christians give, but see no return.
- Misunderstandings about biblical sowing and reaping.
- God is not a man that He should lie (Numbers 23:19) — so where's the disconnect?
- What this book aims to uncover: the heart, principles, and practices that lead to true reward.

Chapter 1: Sowing Is More Than Money

- The misconception: reducing sowing to financial giving.
- Sowing includes: time, service, love, kindness, forgiveness, spiritual gifts (Galatians 6:7-10).
- Real-life example: A believer who gave generously but neglected sowing mercy and reaped bitterness.
- The law of the harvest: You reap what you sow, where you sow, and as you sow.

Chapter 2: Wrong Motives, Blocked Harvest

- 2 Corinthians 9:7 — "not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."
- God looks at the heart of the sower (1 Samuel 16:7).
- Giving to impress, manipulate, or earn favor cancels the reward (Matthew 6:1-4).
- Life example: A businessman who gave large offerings but with a prideful heart — and why he saw no blessing.

Chapter 3: Sowing in the Wrong Field

- Not every soil produces (Matthew 13:3-9).
- Giving into false teachings, manipulative schemes, or ungodly purposes.
- Biblical giving priorities: Kingdom advancement, the poor, the house of God.
- Modern warning: discernment in where and to whom you give (Philippians 4:16-19).

Chapter 4: When Sowing Becomes a Transaction

- The error of "give to get" theology.
- God desires relationship, not just ritual (Malachi 1:10).
- The difference between sowing in faith vs. bargaining with God.
- Example: Someone who gave "seed" for a car but neglected seeking God's kingdom first (Matthew 6:33).

Chapter 5: Ignoring the Other Conditions of Harvest

- Sowing must be partnered with:
  - Righteous living (Proverbs 11:18)
  - Faith and patience (Hebrews 6:12)
  - Obedience to God's will (Deuteronomy 28:1-2)
- Many give but disobey in other areas — and short-circuit the blessing.
- Real-life illustration: A giver who refused reconciliation or forgiveness and blocked their own blessing.

Chapter 6: The Timing of the Harvest

- Ecclesiastes 3:2 — "A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted."
- The danger of impatience: abandoning faith just before the harvest.
- God's process often includes testing, pruning, and preparation (John 15:2).
- Encouragement: Your seed is not forgotten (Psalm 126:5-6).

Chapter 7: The Devourer and the Stolen Harvest

- Malachi 3:11 — "I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes…"
- How sin, disobedience, and spiritual negligence open doors to the devourer.
- The importance of tithing, integrity, and spiritual warfare in protecting your harvest.
- Example: How unrepented sin can dry up a field of blessing.

Chapter 8: True Rewards: God's Definition vs. Man's

- Luke 6:38 — blessings beyond money: favor, opportunities, peace, divine connections.
- Some rewards are eternal, not always immediate (1 Corinthians 3:13-15).
- The danger of judging success by material wealth alone.
- Biblical profiles: Anna, the widow of Zarephath, the Macedonian church.

Chapter 9: Sowing for the Kingdom — The Greatest Reward

- Matthew 19:29 — leaving, giving, serving for Christ brings unmatched return.
- The joy of seeing lives changed, souls saved, and the kingdom advanced.
- Practical ways to sow eternally:
  - Support missions and evangelism.
  - Sponsor discipleship and Bible distribution.
  - Invest in raising godly children, mentoring others.
- Example: A Christian who found joy in kingdom sowing over personal gain.

Chapter 10: Restoring a Fruitful Sowing Life

- Repentance for wrong sowing.
- Asking God for fresh wisdom and guidance.
- Aligning your sowing with the Spirit's leading.
- A practical plan:
  - Review your giving patterns.

    - Identify where you need to make heart adjustments.
    - Pray for discernment in future sowing.

Conclusion: Sow Well, Sow Wisely, Sow for Eternity

- God is faithful to reward (Hebrews 11:6).
- The invitation to shift from mechanical sowing to joyful partnership with God's purposes.
- A final call to intentional, Spirit-led giving that reaps true reward — now and forever.

Appendices

A. Verse-by-Verse Study of 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 6:38

- Greek word insights, historical context, application.

B. Sower's Heart Checklist

- Reflection: Are my motives pure? Am I sowing in good soil?

C. Scriptural Declarations for Sowers

- Powerful promises to pray over your seed.

D. Group Study Questions

- For small groups, church classes, or discipleship circles.

E. Prayers for Sowers

- Prayers of dedication, wisdom, and protection over your harvest.

Preface

There was a season in my life when I gave—faithfully, joyfully, sacrificially. I sowed seeds into missions, into the needy, into church projects, into lives. But as months turned into years, I found myself quietly asking, *"Lord, where is the harvest You promised?"* Like many Christians, I held on to verses like **Luke 6:38 (KJV)** — *"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over…"* Yet what I saw in my life didn't match what I read in the Word.

I began to study, pray, and seek the Lord earnestly about this mystery. What the Holy Spirit revealed was humbling, convicting, and life-changing: **sowing is not a formula; it is a spiritual principle that demands alignment of heart, motive, and method with God's Word**. Too many give out of habit, manipulation, or wrong expectations—and miss the true rewards God has designed.

This book is born out of my journey. It's a call to examine not just *what* we give, but *how* and *why* we give. It's an invitation to sow with understanding, to partner with God's purposes, and to position ourselves to receive what He delights to release.

In these chapters, you'll find **biblical truths**, **practical examples**, and **real-life stories**—both of those who reaped abundantly and those who missed their harvest through ignorance or error. My prayer is that as you read, the Holy Spirit will open your eyes, correct misconceptions, and ignite a passion for faithful, fruitful sowing that glorifies Christ.

As **2 Corinthians 9:6 (KJV)** reminds us: *"He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."* This is not just about money—it's about life, purpose, and eternal reward.

May you sow well, and may your harvest bring honor to the Lord of the Harvest.

Foreword

In a time when **giving and sowing** have often been distorted into formulas for selfish gain, or reduced to emotional appeals lacking spiritual depth, this book comes as a breath of fresh air. *Sowing: Why Christians Don't Receive Rewards* is not another manual on how to "get rich quick by giving." Rather, it is a **prophetic call** to return to the heart of true biblical generosity—a heart that seeks God's glory, not man's applause; God's reward, not man's riches.

The author has written with **deep conviction, humility, and clarity**—grounding every truth in the unchanging Word of God. Verses like **2 Corinthians 9:6 (KJV)** remind us: *"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."* And yet, how often do we sow bountifully in quantity but sparingly in spirit—lacking the love, faith, and obedience God desires?

What I appreciate most is how this book **addresses hard questions many are afraid to ask**:

- Why does my giving sometimes seem fruitless?
- Are there spiritual laws I am violating unknowingly?
- How do I align my sowing with God's heart so I can walk in His true rewards?

In these pages, you will find **biblical answers, practical wisdom, and much-needed correction** for today's Church. It is my firm belief that if we heed the principles in this book, the body of Christ will move from frustration in giving to **fruitfulness in sowing**.

I commend this work to you. Read it prayerfully. Let it search your motives. Let it refine your practice. And above all, let it bring you back to the **ultimate purpose of sowing: to honor the Lord of the harvest**.

May this book not only inform you but transform you.

— Pastor John Foye
Pastor, Teacher, and Servant of Christ

Introduction: The Mystery of Sowing Without Harvest

Many believers today can relate to this hidden frustration: *"I have given. I have sown. I have obeyed the calls to generosity… yet, where is my harvest?"* You may have tithed faithfully, supported missions, contributed to building projects, or helped the needy. And still, your financial life seems barren, your prayers unanswered, and your expectations unmet.

This mystery of *sowing without reaping* has left many discouraged, disillusioned, and even doubtful about the promises of God. Yet Scripture is clear:

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."
(Galatians 6:7, KJV)

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."
(Luke 6:38, KJV)

If God has spoken these words, and as **Numbers 23:19 (KJV)** declares: *"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"* — then the problem does not lie with God. The disconnect must be in our **understanding, heart posture, or practice of sowing**.

Where We Go Wrong

Over time, many Christians have embraced **misunderstandings** about sowing:

- Some treat giving like a transaction — expecting immediate material returns, as though God were a banker.
- Some sow with mixed motives — seeking recognition or trying to manipulate God into blessing them.
- Some violate other kingdom principles (such as integrity, love, or stewardship) that hinder their harvest.
- Others give **faithfully** but fail to discern the season of reaping or the form the harvest may take (spiritual, relational, eternal).

A Christian businessman once shared how he sowed large amounts into ministry work, expecting God to multiply his finances overnight. When that didn't happen, bitterness crept in. It took years, and wise counsel, for him to see that God was after his *heart* more than his wallet — and that the true harvest God intended was far richer than money.

What This Book Aims to Uncover

This book is a journey back to the **heart of biblical sowing and reaping**. It will help you:
✅Understand what God truly rewards — and what He doesn't.
✅Identify the heart attitudes that block harvests.
✅Align your giving with God's purpose, not just your desires.

✓Recognize that reward is sometimes immediate, sometimes delayed, but always sure in God's time and way (Ecclesiastes 11:1).

"Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days."
(Ecclesiastes 11:1, KJV)

Together, we will explore truths that can **break the cycle of frustration** and help you experience sowing that honors God and brings true, lasting reward — the kind that **heaven records, hell cannot steal, and time cannot erase**.

Chapter 1: Sowing Is More Than Money

When many Christians hear the word *"sowing,"* their minds immediately jump to **money**. Offerings. Tithes. Special seeds for breakthroughs. But biblical sowing is **far greater** and **deeper** than financial giving alone. Reducing sowing to money is like mistaking a single leaf for an entire tree.

□ The Misconception: Sowing = Money

In our generation of *prosperity promises* and *"sow and you'll be rich"* messages, it's easy to fall into this trap. But when Paul wrote:

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."
(Galatians 6:7, KJV)

he wasn't just speaking about offerings. If you read the surrounding verses (**Galatians 6:8-10, KJV**):

"For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting... As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Paul points to *all* our actions — our words, deeds, choices, and attitudes. Our entire life is a field, and every day we are sowing into it.

Sowing Includes:

✅**Time** — Do you give God your first and best hours, or your leftovers? (Ephesians 5:16)
✅**Service** — Are you sowing into the lives of others through help, encouragement, and acts of kindness? (Matthew 25:40)
✅**Love & Kindness** — Do you sow peace, or strife? (James 3:18)
✅**Forgiveness** — Are you sowing mercy, or holding grudges? (Matthew 6:14-15)
✅**Spiritual Gifts** — Are you sowing your gifts into the church and world, or burying them? (1 Peter 4:10)

Real-Life Example: Generous but Bitter

Consider *Samuel*, a believer known for his **generous financial support** of church projects. He gave to missions, church building funds, and supported widows. Yet, his relationships were marked by **harshness**, **unforgiveness**, and **pride**. Over time, he found himself increasingly isolated, hurt, and confused. "Why am I reaping bitterness and rejection, when I have sown so much money?" he asked.

The truth: Samuel had sown **money**, but he had neglected to sow **mercy, love, and humility**.

"For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."
(Matthew 7:2, KJV)

His financial sowing could not cancel out the relational damage caused by his unkindness.

The Law of the Harvest

✅**You reap what you sow** — Sow kindness, reap kindness. Sow deceit, reap distrust.

"They that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same."
(Job 4:8, KJV)

✅**You reap where you sow** — If you sow only into selfish pursuits, don't expect spiritual fruit.

"He that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption…"
(Galatians 6:8, KJV)

✅**You reap as you sow** — The attitude matters: cheerful giving brings joy; grudging sowing brings emptiness.

"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."
(2 Corinthians 9:7, KJV)

A Modern Life Example

Esther, a single mother, was not wealthy, but she sowed **faithfully**:

✔She offered time to mentor young girls.

✔She sowed encouragement into discouraged neighbors.

✔She forgave those who wronged her.

✔She served quietly in her local church.

Years later, when she faced hardship, she found herself surrounded by people who stood with her — the very people she had sown into. Her harvest was rich in **support, love, and help**, far beyond finances.

Reflection

➡ What have you been sowing apart from money?

➡ Where have you neglected sowing — in relationships, service, kindness?

➡ Are you sowing with the right spirit and in the right field?

Chapter 2: Wrong Motives, Blocked Harvest

Many believers sow. They give of their money, their time, their gifts — yet they see **little or no reward**. Why? Because in God's Kingdom, **how you give** matters as much as **what you give**. God is not after empty acts — He is after **the heart behind the act**.

"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."
(2 Corinthians 9:7, KJV)

God Looks at the Heart of the Sower

It is possible to do the right thing for the wrong reason. In human eyes, generosity looks impressive, but God examines **motive**:

"...for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."
(1 Samuel 16:7, KJV)

God weighs not just the *act* of giving, but the *intent* behind it.

Motives That Block the Harvest

1. **Giving to impress others**
Jesus warned about this plainly:

"Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven."
(Matthew 6:1, KJV)

If your giving is to **gain applause**, **likes**, or **recognition**, you've already received your "reward" — human praise. Heaven owes you nothing further.

2. **Giving to manipulate God**
Some sow as if God is a vending machine: *"I'll give this, so God must give me that."* But God is not moved by bribery or transactions.

"Shall I come before him with burnt offerings... will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams...?"
(Micah 6:6-7, KJV)

True sowing flows from **love, trust, and obedience**, not an attempt to control God.

3. **Giving grudgingly or under pressure**
Some give because they feel forced, guilty, or fearful of being judged. But grudging sowing is **spoiled seed**:

"...not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."
(**2 Corinthians 9:7, KJV**)

Life Example: The Businessman Who Gave but Didn't Receive

Consider *Mr. Thomas*, a wealthy businessman. He gave large donations to church projects and charity drives. His name was printed in bulletins. People clapped when he stood up. Yet, despite his giving, his personal life was filled with **financial loss**, **failed ventures**, and **family strife**.

Privately, his motive wasn't to honor God — it was to **prove his status**, **win favor with leaders**, and **secure influence**. His giving was an investment in **pride**, not in God's Kingdom.

"I tell you the truth, they have their reward."
(**Matthew 6:2, KJV**)

Thomas received **human praise**, but missed **heaven's reward**.

How to Sow with the Right Motive

✅**Sow from love** — Love for God, love for people (1 Corinthians 13:3).
✅**Sow from gratitude** — A heart that says, "Thank You, Lord."
✅**Sow from faith** — Trusting God to use your seed as He wills (Hebrews 11:6).
✅**Sow quietly** — Let God see; don't seek human applause (Matthew 6:4).

Reflection

➡ *Why do I give?*

➡ *Is my motive pure, or is there pride, manipulation, or pressure?*

➡ *Am I trusting God with my seed — or trying to control Him with it?*

Chapter 3: Sowing in the Wrong Field

One of the greatest reasons Christians sow without seeing reward is that they plant their seed in **unfruitful, deceptive, or corrupted soil**. Even the best seed won't bear fruit if the ground is wrong.

"Behold, a sower went forth to sow... some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up: some fell upon stony places... and some fell among thorns... But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit…"
(Matthew 13:3-9, KJV)

The *parable of the sower* teaches us that **where** you plant matters just as much as **what** you plant.

Not Every Soil Produces

It's possible to give with the right heart but still see no harvest — because the seed went into the wrong place. Jesus described soils that were:

- **Hard (wayside)** — The seed is snatched before it even takes root.
- **Shallow (stony)** — The seed springs up but withers because there's no depth.
- **Choked (thorny)** — The seed is overtaken by other priorities.

Likewise, when we give into **wrong fields**, we see no lasting harvest.

Wrong Fields for Sowing

✓**False teachings**
When Christians give to support ministries or messages that contradict Scripture, they are funding deception, not Kingdom work.

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."
(Matthew 7:15, KJV)

✓**Manipulative schemes**
Some sow because they were pressured, emotionally manipulated, or misled by promises of quick, guaranteed blessings. This is not biblical giving — it is exploitation.

✓**Ungodly purposes**
When we give to causes, groups, or leaders that promote selfish ambition, immorality, or ungodly agendas, we are scattering seed in poisoned soil.

Biblical Priorities for Sowing

God's Word teaches us where our seed should go:

✅**For Kingdom advancement**

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness…"
(Matthew 6:33, KJV)

✅**For the poor and needy**

"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again."
(Proverbs 19:17, KJV)

✅**For the house of God**

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house…"
(Malachi 3:10, KJV)

✅**For faithful servants of God**

"For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity... my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."
(Philippians 4:16-19, KJV)

Modern Warning: Discern Where and to Whom You Give

Today's generation faces:

- **Slick marketing "ministries" promising instant wealth in exchange for seed**
- **Fake charities that misuse donations**
- **Social media influencers who solicit gifts but promote ungodly lifestyles**

We must practice **spiritual discernment**:

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God…"
(1 John 4:1, KJV)

Life Example: The Giver Who Funded a Lie

Sister Mary gave regularly to a "prophet" who promised that every seed would bring seven-fold financial return within 7 days. She emptied her savings. Instead of seeing a harvest, she fell into debt and discouragement. It was only after returning to Scripture and sowing into sound, accountable ministries that she began to see God's blessing — not always financial, but real and lasting.

Reflection

➡ *Where am I planting my seed?*

➡ *Does this ministry, person, or cause align with God's Word?*

➡ *Am I sowing for the glory of God or the hype of men?*

Chapter 4: When Sowing Becomes a Transaction

Many believers today unknowingly reduce sowing to a **spiritual transaction**, where giving becomes less about worship and more about **bargaining** with God. This mindset turns our relationship with the Lord into a business deal rather than an act of love and faith.

"Who is there even among you that would shut the doors for nought? neither do ye kindle fire on mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you, saith the Lord of hosts…"
(Malachi 1:10, KJV)

In Malachi's day, God's people were going through the motions of sacrifice — but their hearts were far from Him. The offerings were given out of duty, manipulation, or expectation of gain, and **God rejected it all**.

The Error of "Give to Get" Theology

In many modern teachings, the focus of sowing has shifted dangerously to a **formula**:

"If I give this, God must give me that."

But true biblical sowing is not a **magic formula**; it's an act of faith and worship. God is not a vending machine dispensing blessings on demand because of the size of your seed.

"Give, and it shall be given unto you... For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."
(Luke 6:38, KJV)

This promise is rooted in a **heart of generosity**, not in a deal-making spirit.

God Desires Relationship, Not Just Ritual

God wants our giving to flow from:

- **Love** for Him
- **Gratitude** for His grace
- **Trust** in His provision

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
(Matthew 6:33, KJV)

When we focus on **getting**, we lose sight of **seeking**. We begin to chase the gifts and not the Giver.

Sowing in Faith vs. Bargaining with God

✅**Sowing in faith**:

- Believes God is good and will supply as He chooses.
- Is content whether God answers now or later.
- Is motivated by love, worship, and obedience.

Bargaining with God:

- Gives only to get something in return.
- Is frustrated if the return doesn’t match expectation.
- Often focuses on material gain rather than spiritual fruit.

Modern Example: The Seed for a Car

Consider John, a young believer who desperately wanted a new car. He attended a service where the preacher declared, *“Sow your car seed today, and God will give you a miracle vehicle in 30 days!”* Moved by emotion, John emptied his savings as a “car seed.” Thirty days came and went. No car, no miracle, and John felt bitter toward God.

The problem wasn’t that John gave — it was that his **motive** was not to honor God but to **use God** for his personal goal. All the while, John neglected **seeking first the kingdom**, and missed opportunities to grow in faith and obedience.

The Heart Check

Before you give:

➡ *Am I giving to worship God or to get from God?*

➡ *If God delays or denies what I want, will I still trust Him?*

➡ *Is my priority His kingdom or my comfort?*

Key Scriptures

- **Malachi 1:10** — God rejects empty ritual.
- **Matthew 6:33** — Seek first God’s kingdom.
- **Luke 6:38** — Generosity brings blessing — but not as a business deal.
- **1 Chronicles 29:14** — *“All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.”*

Thought

True sowing begins when we give not **to get** but because we've already **received** God's greatest gift — Himself.

Chapter 5: Ignoring the Other Conditions of Harvest

Many Christians sow seeds faithfully — tithes, offerings, acts of service — but still wonder **why the harvest hasn't come**. The truth is, sowing is **only one part of the equation**. God has set **other conditions** that must accompany our giving for a harvest to be released.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."
(**Galatians 6:7, KJV**)

If we sow in one area but disobey in another, we **block the flow** of blessing God intended.

Sowing Must Be Partnered With…

✅Righteous Living

"The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward."
(**Proverbs 11:18, KJV**)

Sowing money without sowing righteousness (upright living, integrity, holiness) is like planting seed in rocky, thorny soil. A righteous lifestyle waters your seed and aligns your life with God's ways, so the harvest can come.

✅Faith and Patience

"That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises."
(**Hebrews 6:12, KJV**)

Some believers give generously but **quit too soon**, expecting immediate results and getting discouraged when they don't see them. Sowing requires not only planting but **waiting on God's timing** in faith and patience. The farmer who digs up the seed to check on it will never see a harvest!

✅Obedience to God's Will

"And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God… that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee…"
(**Deuteronomy 28:1-2, KJV**)

Giving cannot **substitute for obedience**. You cannot bribe God with offerings while knowingly disobeying His Word in other areas (e.g. unforgiveness, immorality, dishonesty). Obedience positions you to **receive the blessing your seed is meant to bring**.

The Danger of Giving Without Godly Living

Many Christians sow financial seeds in church while:

- **Harboring bitterness** against others
- **Cheating in business**
- **Living in secret sin**
- **Refusing God's call to reconciliation or holiness**

And then wonder why the windows of heaven remain shut.

Real-Life Example

Consider Sarah, a woman known in her church for generosity. She tithed, gave to missions, and supported the needy. But Sarah **refused to forgive her sister** over a long-standing offense. Though she sowed financially, the bitterness she harbored blocked the spiritual blessings that God desired to pour out. Her relationships remained strained, her business struggled, and her peace was gone — until she chose to **forgive**. When she did, it was as if the dam broke, and blessings began to flow again.

"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any…"
(**Mark 11:25, KJV**)

Self-Check Questions

➡ Am I living in obedience to God while I sow?

➡ Am I walking in faith and patience, or frustration and doubt?

➡ Am I sowing righteousness alongside my financial seeds?

Key Scriptures

- **Proverbs 11:18** — Righteous sowing brings a sure reward.
- **Hebrews 6:12** — Faith and patience inherit the promise.
- **Deuteronomy 28:1-2** — Obedience releases blessing.
- **Mark 11:25** — Forgiveness is critical for answered prayers.

Thought

Sowing is not a shortcut to blessing. It is part of a **whole-life posture** of faith, righteousness, obedience, and patience — all working together to produce a harvest that glorifies God.

Chapter 6: The Timing of the Harvest

One of the greatest frustrations believers face in sowing is the **waiting season**. You have planted, prayed, and believed — yet the harvest seems delayed. But God's Word reminds us:

"A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted."
(**Ecclesiastes 3:2, KJV**)

Just as in the natural, there is a **God-ordained season** for reaping what has been sown.

The Danger of Impatience

Often, believers **abandon their faith too soon** — walking away from the field just before the harvest breaks through. The enemy's goal is to wear down your hope so that you:

- **Quit watering your seed with prayer**
- **Stop expecting God's promise**
- **Fall into doubt and discouragement**

But the Bible warns:

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."
(**Galatians 6:9, KJV**)

God's Process Includes Testing, Pruning, and Preparation

God is more interested in the **sower's heart** than in just producing external fruit. Sometimes, He delays the harvest to:

- **Test your faith** (James 1:3-4)
- **Prune your life** (John 15:2)
- **Prepare you to handle the blessing without pride or waste**

“Every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.”
(**John 15:2, KJV**)

God’s delay is not His denial — it is often His design to produce a **deeper, stronger harvest**.

Encouragement: Your Seed Is Not Forgotten

“They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”
(**Psalm 126:5-6, KJV**)

No tear shed in obedience is wasted. No seed planted in faith is forgotten. God keeps perfect record, and in His perfect timing, the harvest will come.

Real-Life Example

Consider a young couple who sowed faithfully into missions and charity while they themselves were struggling financially. Years passed with little visible return, but they kept trusting and serving. When God opened a door — unexpectedly — for a stable business that flourished, they saw how the years of waiting had prepared their hearts to handle wealth with humility and generosity.

Practical Application

➡ Resist comparing your harvest timeline with others.

➡ Water your seed with faith-filled prayer and thanksgiving.

➡ Stay focused on serving God while you wait — don’t idle in discouragement.

Key Scriptures

- **Ecclesiastes 3:2** — There is a time to reap.
- **Galatians 6:9** — Don’t faint; the harvest is sure.
- **Psalm 126:5-6** — Sowing in tears will reap in joy.
- **John 15:2** — God prunes for greater fruit.

Thought

God’s timing is **perfect**. When you sow in faith and patience, your harvest will come — not a day too early or too late, but **right on time for His purpose and glory**.

Chapter 7: The Devourer and the Stolen Harvest

"And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts."
(**Malachi 3:11, KJV**)

Many believers sow in faith, yet see their harvest **eaten up**, delayed, or stolen. Why? Because they neglect one crucial truth: **what you plant must be protected**.

Who or What is the Devourer?

In Malachi's day, the "devourer" referred to locusts, pests, or plagues that destroyed crops. Spiritually, the devourer represents:

- **Demonic interference in your harvest**
- **Unexpected losses and frustrations**
- **Attacks that sabotage fruitfulness**

The enemy's goal is to **steal what God intends to bless you with** (John 10:10).

How Doors Are Opened to the Devourer

"He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it; and whoso breaketh an hedge, a serpent shall bite him."
(**Ecclesiastes 10:8, KJV**)

The spiritual hedge of protection around your harvest can be broken by:

- **Unrepented sin** (Isaiah 59:2)
- **Disobedience to God's commands** (Deuteronomy 28:15-19)
- **Neglect of spiritual disciplines**
- **Tithing neglected — robbing God and weakening your defense** (Malachi 3:8-10)

When we open these doors, we give the devourer legal ground.

The Role of Tithing, Integrity, and Warfare

✅**Tithing**: Tithing is not a transaction — it's a declaration of God's ownership. God promises to rebuke the devourer when we honor Him with our first fruits (Malachi 3:10-11).

✅**Integrity**: A life of honesty and obedience keeps the hedge intact (Proverbs 11:3).

✅**Spiritual Warfare**: Your seed must be watered not just by faith but by **prayer and watchfulness** (Ephesians 6:10-18). The devourer is resisted in the place of spiritual authority.

Example: The Field Dried by Sin

There was a businessman who sowed generously into missions and the needy. But privately, he was engaged in fraudulent practices. His business began to crumble despite his sowing. When he repented and made restitution, he began to see God restore what the devourer had eaten (see Joel 2:25).

Practical Application

➡ Examine your life: Are there hidden sins, disobedience, or compromises?

➡ Keep your spiritual hedge through prayer, fasting, and the Word.

➡ Give God what belongs to Him — not just money, but your heart and obedience.

Key Scriptures

- **Malachi 3:11** — God promises to rebuke the devourer.
- **John 10:10** — The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy.
- **Ecclesiastes 10:8** — Break the hedge, and the serpent will bite.
- **Joel 2:25** — God restores what was eaten by the devourer.

Closing Thought

It is not enough to sow — you must **guard your field**. Let your life align with your giving, and trust God to **protect and prosper the work of your hands**.

Chapter 8: True Rewards: God's Definition vs. Man's

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."
(**Luke 6:38, KJV**)

Many Christians expect one kind of reward from sowing — money, promotion, material ease — and grow discouraged when it doesn't come in the form or timing they imagined. But God's rewards are **richer, deeper, and more diverse** than human definitions of success.

God's Reward System: Beyond Cash and Comfort

When Jesus said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you," He wasn't promising **cash-back guarantees**. Instead, He revealed that generosity opens the door for:
✅**Favor** — divine influence on people's hearts (e.g. Joseph, Genesis 39:21)
✅**Opportunities** — God-ordained doors no man can shut (Revelation 3:8)
✅**Peace** — inner rest that money can't buy (Philippians 4:7)
✅**Divine connections** — relationships that advance your God-given purpose

A cheerful giver may find unexpected provision — but **often in ways more valuable than money**.

Some Rewards Are Eternal

"Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire… If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward."
(**1 Corinthians 3:13-14, KJV**)

✓Not all rewards are immediate. Some seeds sown now will bloom in eternity.
✓Sowing is as much about **building for heaven** as about experiencing blessings on earth.
✓Those who give for show may receive applause on earth, but lose reward in heaven (Matthew 6:1-4).

The Danger of Material-Only Metrics

"For a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."
(Luke 12:15, KJV)

Our generation often equates **success with material accumulation**. But many who are wealthy are spiritually bankrupt, and many who seem poor possess treasures in heaven.

✓True success = **faithfulness to God's calling, generosity from a pure heart, and eternal fruit.**
✓When we measure reward only in houses, cars, or bank balances, we miss the greater riches of God.

Biblical Profiles of True Reward

Anna (Luke 2:36-38) — A widow who served in the temple with fasting and prayer for decades. Her reward? To see the Messiah with her own eyes — a reward beyond silver or gold.

The Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:8-16) — She sowed her last meal into Elijah's life in obedience to God. She didn't gain wealth, but her household was sustained through famine by a miracle of provision.

The Macedonian Church (2 Corinthians 8:1-5) — Poor and persecuted, yet they gave beyond their ability with joy. Paul commended them as models of generosity and their legacy blesses the Church to this day.

Modern Example

There was a single mother who regularly gave small gifts to missions, even while struggling to pay rent. She didn't see a lottery-like windfall, but over time, God surrounded her with a supportive community, provided jobs, and opened doors for her children's education — rewards money could not buy.

Key Scriptures

- **Luke 6:38** — Give, and it shall be given unto you.
- **1 Corinthians 3:13-15** — The fire will test every man's work.
- **Luke 12:15** — Life is not about possessions.
- **Matthew 6:19-21** — Lay up treasures in heaven.

Charge

Sow generously. Expect **God's kind of reward** — favor, peace, purpose, and eternal treasure. And rejoice when His blessings surprise you in ways money could never match.

Chapter 9: Sowing for the Kingdom — The Greatest Reward

"And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life."
(**Matthew 19:29, KJV**)

When Christians think of sowing, we often focus on financial giving and earthly returns. But the highest, most glorious harvest is **Kingdom fruit** — souls saved, lives transformed, and Christ glorified. This is the **greatest reward** because it echoes in eternity.

What Jesus Promised

In **Matthew 19:29**, Jesus assured us:
✅When we sow into the Kingdom by **leaving, giving, serving**, we gain far more — both now and in eternity.
✅This isn't limited to money. It's about our whole life offered for God's purpose.
✅The returns aren't just material — they include joy, spiritual family, purpose, and everlasting life.

The Joy of Kingdom Sowing

There is no greater joy than:
✅**Seeing souls saved** — the greatest harvest of all (Luke 15:7).
✅**Watching lives changed** through the Gospel you supported.
✅**Knowing your sacrifices ripple across generations and nations.**

Many who have invested in Kingdom causes testify: **The peace and satisfaction they gained far outweighed any temporary riches.**

Practical Ways to Sow Eternally

1. **Support missions and evangelism**

- Sponsor missionaries, mission trips, or church plants (Romans 10:14-15).
- Give to ministries that preach Christ where He is not known.

2. **Sponsor discipleship and Bible distribution**

- Fund Bible translations, distribution, or teaching materials.
- Help train believers who will disciple others (2 Timothy 2:2).

3. **Invest in raising godly children, mentoring others**

- Your home is a Kingdom field. Raise children to fear God (Proverbs 22:6).
- Mentor young believers; sow into their spiritual growth.

Galatians 6:10 (KJV): *"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."*

Example: Joy in Kingdom Sowing Over Personal Gain

There was a Christian businesswoman who, instead of focusing on accumulating wealth for luxury, chose to **fund orphanages, Bible schools, and rural evangelism**. She could have lived in greater material comfort, but she often said, *"My reward is seeing others come to Christ."* Her legacy impacted thousands, and she testifies that **no house or car could match that joy.**

God's Promise to Kingdom Sowers

✅**Mark 10:29-30 (KJV)** — God promises "an hundredfold now in this time… and in the world to come eternal life."
✅Kingdom sowing multiplies beyond our imagination because it partners with **God's heart**.

Call to Action

Where is your treasure? What kind of harvest are you aiming for?
 Choose today to **sow into the Kingdom** — the reward is sure, the return is eternal.

Chapter 10: Restoring a Fruitful Sowing Life

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
(1 John 1:9, KJV)

No matter how long you may have sown in vain, missed the mark, or given with wrong motives, **God's mercy makes restoration possible**. This chapter explores how to return to fruitful sowing — sowing that pleases God and brings true reward.

1. Repentance for Wrong Sowing

The first step is **repentance** — humbly acknowledging where we've sown:
✅In the wrong fields (false doctrines, manipulative schemes).
✅With wrong motives (pride, selfishness, bargaining).
✅In disobedience (neglecting the Spirit's prompting).

Hosea 10:12 (KJV): *"Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord..."*

✅God doesn't condemn — He invites us to turn and be cleansed (Isaiah 1:18).

2. Ask God for Fresh Wisdom and Guidance

Once you've repented, **seek God for fresh direction**:
✅**James 1:5 (KJV)** — *"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God... and it shall be given him."*
✅Pray for discernment: Where should I sow? How? When?

Example prayer: *"Lord, guide my heart. Let me sow what pleases You and reaps an eternal harvest."*

3. Aligning Your Sowing with the Spirit's Leading

True sowing flows from **relationship**, not ritual:
✅Let the Spirit lead your giving (Romans 8:14).
✅Stay sensitive to His promptings — sometimes He will lead you to sow where you least expect.
✅Remember: Sowing is about partnership with God's heart.

Example: A man who once gave out of routine began praying before every act of giving — and saw fruit he never imagined as God directed him to specific needs and ministries.

4. A Practical Plan for Restoring Fruitfulness

Here's how to act today:

✅**Review your giving patterns**

- Where have you been sowing?
- Have you been giving with a right heart?

✅**Identify heart adjustments**

- Are you cheerful (2 Corinthians 9:7)?
- Are you trusting God, or trying to manipulate Him?

✅**Pray for discernment going forward**

- Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight where to plant your seeds.
- Write down His promptings; follow through in obedience.

✅**Commit to intentional, Spirit-led sowing**

- Budget for Kingdom priorities.
- Include acts of mercy, time investment, and service — not just money.

Encouragement

God is a Restorer:

"And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten…"
(**Joel 2:25, KJV**)

It's not too late. **Start fresh today. Sow in faith. Reap in joy.**

Conclusion: Sow Well, Sow Wisely, Sow for Eternity

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."
(**Hebrews 11:6, KJV**)

Christian sowing is not a lifeless ritual or a religious duty. **It is a faith-filled partnership with God's heart and plan**. Too many have been disillusioned by mechanical giving that yields no joy or reward — not because God is unfaithful, but because we often sow amiss.

God is Faithful to Reward

God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love (Hebrews 6:10).
✅He sees the seeds planted in secret (Matthew 6:4).
✅He remembers the sacrifices made in faith (Psalm 20:3).
✅He delights in rewarding those who trust and obey Him.

God's rewards come in **His time**, in **His way**, and often far exceed material things — bringing peace, purpose, and eternal fruit.

An Invitation to Shift Your Sowing

It's time to move:

✕From mechanical giving ➡ to **joyful sowing in partnership with God**.

✕From "give-to-get" ➡ to **give-to-glorify**.

✕From mere duty ➡ to **delight in advancing the Kingdom**.

"For God loveth a cheerful giver."
(**2 Corinthians 9:7, KJV**)

A Final Call: Sow Intentionally, Sow Eternally

Ask yourself:
✅Am I sowing with eternity in view (Matthew 6:19-21)?
✅Am I led by the Spirit in my sowing (Romans 8:14)?
✅Am I seeking to please God, or to impress people?

Your seed can change lives now — and echo in eternity.

Sow well. Sow wisely. **Sow for eternity**.

A Closing Prayer

Lord, I yield my heart, my resources, and my service to You. Teach me to sow what pleases You. Let my seeds bear fruit that glorifies You — both in this life and in eternity. In Jesus' name, amen.

Appendices

A. Verse-by-Verse Study of 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 6:38

➡ 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

- *Greek insights:*
  - **Sparingly (pheidomenos)** — holding back, giving little.
  - **Cheerful (hilaros)** — joyful, willing, without compulsion.
  - **Supply (epichorēgeō)** — richly furnish, abundantly provide.
- *Context:* Paul encourages the Corinthians to give as a reflection of God's generosity, not from pressure but from love.
- *Application:* True sowing overflows from gratitude, trust, and a desire to glorify God.

➡ Luke 6:38

- *Greek insight:*
  - **Good measure, pressed down... running over** — imagery from the market, of grain packed so full that it overflows.
- *Context:* Jesus teaches that generosity brings back divine blessing — in many forms, not always monetary.
- *Application:* Giving with a right heart opens channels for God's favor and provision.

B. Sower's Heart Checklist

Ask yourself:
✅Am I giving joyfully or reluctantly? (2 Corinthians 9:7)
✅Am I sowing in good soil — ministries and purposes that align with God's truth? (Philippians 4:16-19)
✅Am I seeking to glorify God, or to gain personal applause? (Matthew 6:1-4)
✅Am I sowing consistently, not just in crisis? (Ecclesiastes 11:6)
✅Am I ready to trust God's timing for my harvest? (Galatians 6:9)

C. Scriptural Declarations for Sowers

Pray and declare these promises over your seed:

➡ Psalm 126:5-6
"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy."

➡ Proverbs 11:25
"The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself."

➡ Malachi 3:10-11
"...prove me now herewith, saith the Lord... I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes..."

➡ 2 Corinthians 9:8
"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you..."

D. Group Study Questions

Use these for small groups, church classes, or discipleship:
□ What is the difference between sowing as a transaction and sowing as worship?
□ Share a time when you sowed and saw God reward it. What did you learn?
□ How can we avoid manipulation or error in giving?
□ How can our group or church sow more intentionally for God's Kingdom?

E. Prayers for Sowers

Pray these or personalize them as you seek God's heart in giving:

Prayer of Dedication:
Lord, all I have comes from You. Help me to give as You lead, with joy and faith. May my sowing honor You and advance Your Kingdom.

Prayer for Wisdom:
Father, grant me discernment to know where, when, and how to sow. Keep me from deception or waste.

Prayer for Protection:
Lord, rebuke the devourer for my sake. Preserve the seed I've planted and the harvest You have ordained. Let no enemy steal what You have purposed for good.